

Public Involvement Plan Proposed Scope of Work -- FY 2002–2003

April 18, 2001 (Rev. Sept. 25, 2001)

Project No.: PIP 12B
Capital Improvement Projects

Lead Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

Submitted By: Jone Wright
2764 Compass Drive, Suite 106
Grand Junction, Colorado 81506
970-248-0636
970-248-0601 (Fax)
jwright@uc.usbr.gov

Title of Proposal: Coordination of public involvement related to:

Colorado River - Mainstem

Efficiency improvements to the Government Highline Canal as part of the Grand Valley Water Management Project—Anticipate contract for the automation system to operate the recently constructed check structures to be awarded in June 01. Construction of the pumping plant at Highline Lake is on hold pending resolution of issues raised by the Colorado Division of Parks and Recreation, managers of the state park. If we cannot reach an understanding for the use of Highline Lake, we will prepare an amended Grand Valley Water Management Environmental Assessment for an alternate site. Anticipate contract award in FY 02.

Constructing a fish screen at the privately-owned Grand Valley Irrigation Company's diversion canal— Anticipate contract award in October 2001.

Restoring fish passage at the abandoned privately-owned Price-Stubb Dam—Reclamation distributed draft Environmental Assessment in April 99. Fish passage and a final environmental assessment on hold pending the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission's decision on an amendment to license a non-Federal hydropower project. A final environmental assessment will be prepared before any construction begins.

Restoring fish passage at the Grand Valley Project Diversion Dam—anticipate releasing a draft environmental assessment summer 2001. Passage anticipated in 2002 and canal screening in 2003.

Colorado River - Gunnison River

Restoring fish passage at the privately-owned Hartland Dam—anticipate construction to begin in the fall of 2003. Reclamation continues to meet with Hartland Irrigation Company officials. A study of fish passage alternatives was completed September 2000. The Recovery Program is discussing the merits of fish passage at this structure.

Strategies/Dates:

1. **Publications:** Produce and distribute news releases regarding where we are with the project(s); draft environmental assessments, where appropriate, for public review and comment; final environmental assessments and findings of no significant impacts where appropriate; newsletters when necessary. All publications to provide updated information to target audiences.

Responsibility: Public Involvement Specialist and Team Leader(s)

Completion Date: Ongoing

2. **Meetings.** Routinely meet with directly affected interests (water users) to discuss proposed project and gain mutual understanding and approval. Management staff regularly meets with local congressional staff to keep them up-to-date and aware of Recovery Program activities that Reclamation is involved with in the area. Meetings are also held at least yearly with the head of the local Club 20 organization to keep members informed of Recovery Program activities as well. Meetings are held with any public who may be, or think they may be, potentially affected by our Recovery Program activities.

Responsibility: Public Involvement Specialist and Project Team Leader(s)

Completion Date: Ongoing

3. **Tours.** Working with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Reclamation conducts tours of Recovery Program fish passages, grow-out ponds, fish screens, habitat restoration areas, etc.

Responsibility: Public Involvement Specialist and other Recovery Program participants

Completion Date: Ongoing

4. **News Media.** Provide support for the Information & Education Coordinator on Recovery Program Activities in the area on an as needed basis helping promote the Recovery Program. May include displaying Recovery Program materials, helping with tours, news articles, news releases, etc.

Responsibility: Public Involvement Specialist

Completion Date: Ongoing

Budget (FY 2002-2003):

Labor (13 weeks for Public Involvement Specialist)	\$ 28,500
Travel (Includes quarterly I&E Committee meetings)	\$ <u>1,500</u>
Total	\$ 30,000 (CAP funds)

Reviewers: Brent Uilenberg 970-248-0641

Bob Norman 970-248-0634